

# *the* **MI** *ssionary* **G** *atechist*

Bishop Noll

Reminds

Religious

Vocations

Must Come

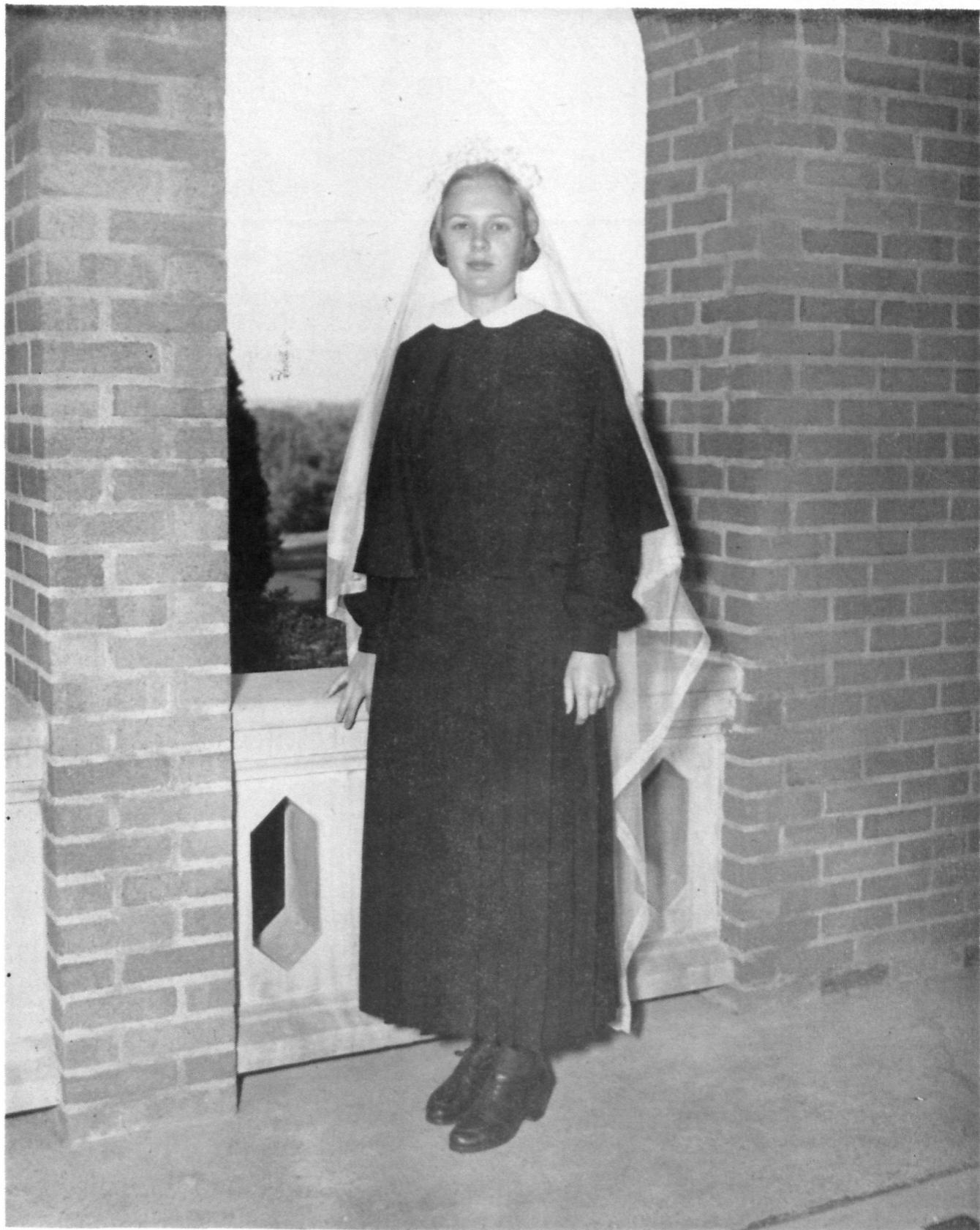
From God



His Excellency, Most Reverend Bishop Noll at his desk, Victory Noll



OUR LADY OF VICTORY MISSIONARY SISTERS



# The Missionary Catechist

Volume XXVIII

March, 1952

Number 4

## Religious Vocations Come from God

by the Most Reverend John Francis Noll, D.D.

FROM a father, residing in New Haven, Connecticut, I have just received a letter which contains the following paragraphs:

I have a little girl, eight years of age, who attends a Catholic school and, even at this tender age, has her heart set on becoming a Nun. She attends Mass every day except Saturday and receives Holy Communion three times a week.

While other children are attracted to their Comic Books, she is attracted to pictures of saints, and is hungry for information concerning them.

I would like very much to keep the fire of love for God burning in her heart and to do all I can to cultivate sanctity in her.

I have taken down your address from the 1951 Church Art Calendar, and since the printer of this Calendar has had your approval for several years, as is indicated by the Introduction you wrote for his Calendar, I thought you might know more about Catholic art than most others.

MOST of you will think that this father has a little child of which he may be well proud without realizing that it is probably the early inculcation of religious ideals in the heart of that child by the father which has made his young daughter so amiable.

WE are acquainted with parents who have *an only* child who, at the age of eight years, expressed a wish to become a Sister, and whose parents began from that very day to pray that her wish might become realized.

NOW the average parent does not give such encouragement to his (her) child. He (she) believes that it is just a fanciful notion which entered the child's head as it became attracted to its religious teacher. In fact the average parent would say that the child is much too young to be even thinking of that.

BUT that is the way grace works. A religious vocation must come from God, and He can instill it into the mind and heart of a very young child as He did in the case of the Little Flower. When He does this the parents should not oppose it, but encourage it, and join the child in prayer that God may continue to love it sufficiently to use it in His own work.

WHETHER your child gives evidence of a religious vocation or not at the age of eight, it is your bounden duty to keep before it high ideals, solid religious and moral principles, to set it good example, and to pray that God may guide and direct it to a happy life here, and to an unending blissful life hereafter.

NO parent can expect a blessing from Heaven on his family who opposes a religious vocation whether it be in an eight year or a twelve year or a sixteen year old girl or boy.

GOD is co-Creator of every child, and has the first claim on every human being born into this world. Oppose Him *in any respect* and you will be the loser; but oppose Him when the eternal welfare of your child is under consideration, and both you and the child will inevitably feel the harmful effects of that opposition.

IT may be unusual to present the subject of Vocation in the manner we have brought it to

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your attention through a letter from a Connecticut father. But we have done this designedly inasmuch as the greatest saints among religious come from the ranks of those in whose hearts the love of God was cultivated very early in life, who never lost their innocence, who, like Christ Himself, grew in "wisdom and grace" as He grew in age.

**B**UT we must still expect most vocations to the Sisterhood from our high school girls and most of them are not in Catholic high schools. They find themselves to be the only ones in the entire school who are thinking of the religious life, and they receive absolutely no encouragement from their teachers or from their associates. The pressure is, on the contrary, from the opposite direction. If they need strong support from God, they must be frequent recipients of the Sacraments. They have a harder fight than their classmates because they have more bad example to resist, because they must work harder with God's grace to retain their ideals in a purely secularistic atmosphere.

**W**ERE such a girl not to receive encouragement from her parents, she certainly would deserve sympathy. She needs to be reminded, as Christ's Apostle reminded his disciple—"be a good soldier of Christ." She must fight through the Holy Spirit, that her own family may accept God's demands.

**W**E wish we had the ear of all Catholic parents for a few days in order to convince them that it will "profit their child nothing to gain the whole world" if it subordinates anything else to sanctity—because sanctity acquired here gives title to an inestimable amount of happiness and glory to be enjoyed everlastingly.

**P**ARENTS need to be reminded that they and their children's children will probably need intercessors in the religious life as well as in the Kingdom of Heaven, if they and these future generations are to be kept close to God.

**E**VEN Martha, the sister of Mary and Lazarus, had to be told by Christ Himself that Mary had done wisely in "choosing the better part." Because it was the source of Mary's joy and she would not relinquish it, Christ told Martha: "It will not be taken away from her" and especially not by a parent or a brother or a sister.

**T**HIS month of March has been designated "Vocation Month," and we strongly recommend that you look for happiness for yourself and your children, even down here, through the acquisition of the blessing of God on your lives and theirs according to God's own plan.

## IN MEMORIAM

Edward Spisak, Cincinnati, Ohio  
father of Sister Mary Camillus, O.L.V.M.  
Marie Vins, Welleston, Michigan  
mother of Sister Joseph, O.L.V.M.  
Mrs. John Sherman Gogin, Grand Forks, N. D.  
mother of Sister Mary Mark, O.L.V.M.  
Margaret McCoy, Hastings, Minnesota  
mother of Sister Mary William, O.L.V.M.  
Louis Wortmann, Racine, Wisconsin  
father of Sister Dorothy Louise, O.L.V.M.  
Andrew Salitrik, Detroit, Michigan  
uncle of Sister Leo, O.L.V.M.  
William A. May, Brooklyn, New York  
uncle of Sister Clarice, O.L.V.M.  
Very Rev. Gregory Anthony Boeckman, Happy, Texas  
Nora Moroney, ACM, Baldwinsville, New York  
Angela Schmid, ACM, Maywood, Illinois  
Balbina Geiger, ACM, Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Mrs. John Haley, ACM, Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Agnes Flavin Maxwell, ACM, Chicago, Illinois  
Josephine Accomando, Chicago, Illinois  
Mary Stolte, St. Louis, Missouri  
Mrs. A. L. Boehmer, Covington, Kentucky  
John Mathy, Morrowville, Kansas  
Anna Schmidt, Cincinnati, Ohio  
Mr. F. Friederich, Techny, Illinois  
Dr. H. D. McManus, Washburn, Maine  
Joseph C. Westbrook, Hamilton, Ohio  
Gertrude Weis, Teutopolis, Illinois  
Stephan Sandwell, Mt. Carmel, Illinois  
Ben Foerg, Louisville, Kentucky  
Ann McGraw, Washington, Pennsylvania

Dear Parents:

Is your daughter interested in becoming a Missionary Sister?

Do you have any fears that she may not be happy or contented? If so, come with us on our trip to Denver, Colorado, to visit our daughter, a Missionary Sister of Our Lady of Victory.

We left Kentucky on Sunday morning, August 19. After driving about 1,200 miles we arrived at Denver where we were met by our daughter. What happiness to meet again after an absence of three years! After a good night's rest at Holy Ghost Center, we had a beautiful High Mass in the convent chapel, sung by our assistant pastor who was also visiting in Denver. This was really an inspiring Mass with just eight persons present and all actively participating in it.

After our breakfast at the convent we were told of the plans to spend a couple of days at Our Lady of the Rockies Camp in the Rocky Mountains. Here the Sisters were enjoying a

*(Please turn to page 15)*

## A VOCATION LETTER

Dear Rita,

*You may wonder why I am sending these pictures to you, a girl who is pondering the vocation of a Missionary Sister.*

*The snaps were taken in Juarez, Mexico, during a little visit we made from our El Paso convent. There, while the anti-Church laws are unenforced for the time being, new churches are being built by the fervent people and their dauntless priests.*

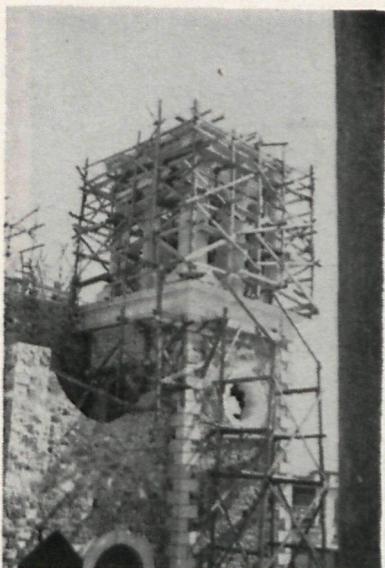
*At the lovely Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe we took a few pictures, and the more I ponder them, the clearer the lesson for us becomes. We, too, must work at building up the "spiritual house" of God, despite our feelings that materialism and evil threaten it even more than bloody persecution threatens the visible Church.*

*For our work is on "living stones built up, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." (I Peter 2) We are to build on the foundation which "is the only one which anybody can lay; I mean Jesus Christ. But on this foundation different men will build in gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, or straw, and each man's workmanship will be plainly seen. It is the day of the Lord that will disclose it, since that day is to reveal itself in fire, and fire will test the quality of each man's workmanship." (I Cor. 3)*

*So you see, we are not building for time, but for eternity. Our seeming failures even in our work for souls, may prove to be works in precious stone when tried by the fire of judgment day.*

*The stone-worker's patient artistry cannot endure forever, but his dedication of the work to God's glory will gain everlasting merit. As a Missionary Sister, you assume a task, both painstaking and delicate, that will mean adding to God's spiritual edifice the stone of your own soul's finely chiselled sanctity, and the living stones of other souls entrusted to your care.*

*In Jesus and Mary,  
Sister Miriam*



Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me;  
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me;  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left;  
Christ in breadth, Christ in length, Christ in height;

Prayer of St. Patrick

(See Back Cover)



Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks to me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me.

# "Come -- and See" *John 1, 39*

## An Invitation -- A Test

by Sister Mary Louise

### "COME AND SEE"

A LONELY Nazarene made His way over the hot, dusty roads of Galilee one afternoon, many years ago. Two figures had been following Him. He turned—He looked on them—and said:

"What seekest thou?"

"Master, where do you live?"

"Come and see." (John 1, 38-39)

They came—they saw—they followed Him! Nothing could keep them from Him, once they had met Him, not even suffering and death at the hands of His enemies.

THE years have slipped by, many of them. Times have changed, we are told—but have they? Throughout the years history repeats itself. Today, even as then, Christ and His Church have bitter enemies—the godless—who seek to tear the faith from men's hearts, to wrest souls from their very Creator and Saviour. They strike at the root of Christianity, at His priests and religious, as they did at His Apostles. They show by their very efforts to do away with them, the tremendous influence they know Christ's special friends have on the destiny of other souls.

TODAY, as then, Christ is calling for apostles. There are generous young men and women responding daily to His call. The greatest service anyone can do for Christ and His Church is to become a Saint. The shortest, surest way is by a life of service, consecrated to God as a priest or a religious.

### AN INVITATION

ALL men are invited to serve God. A vocation may be to the married state, to the single state, or if Christ sees that we will turn from the crowds to Him, that we are generous, eager to learn, then He invites us to come closer, to embrace the religious state. If we accept the "come," the first grace, then like the Apostles, we will later receive the second grace, by which we shall "see" as they did the beauty of becoming *special* friends of Jesus.

John and Andrew felt a tug at their hearts that afternoon urging them to respond to his "come." This feeling is experienced by the boy and the girl who make known to those whom they love that they are leaving home to serve Christ.

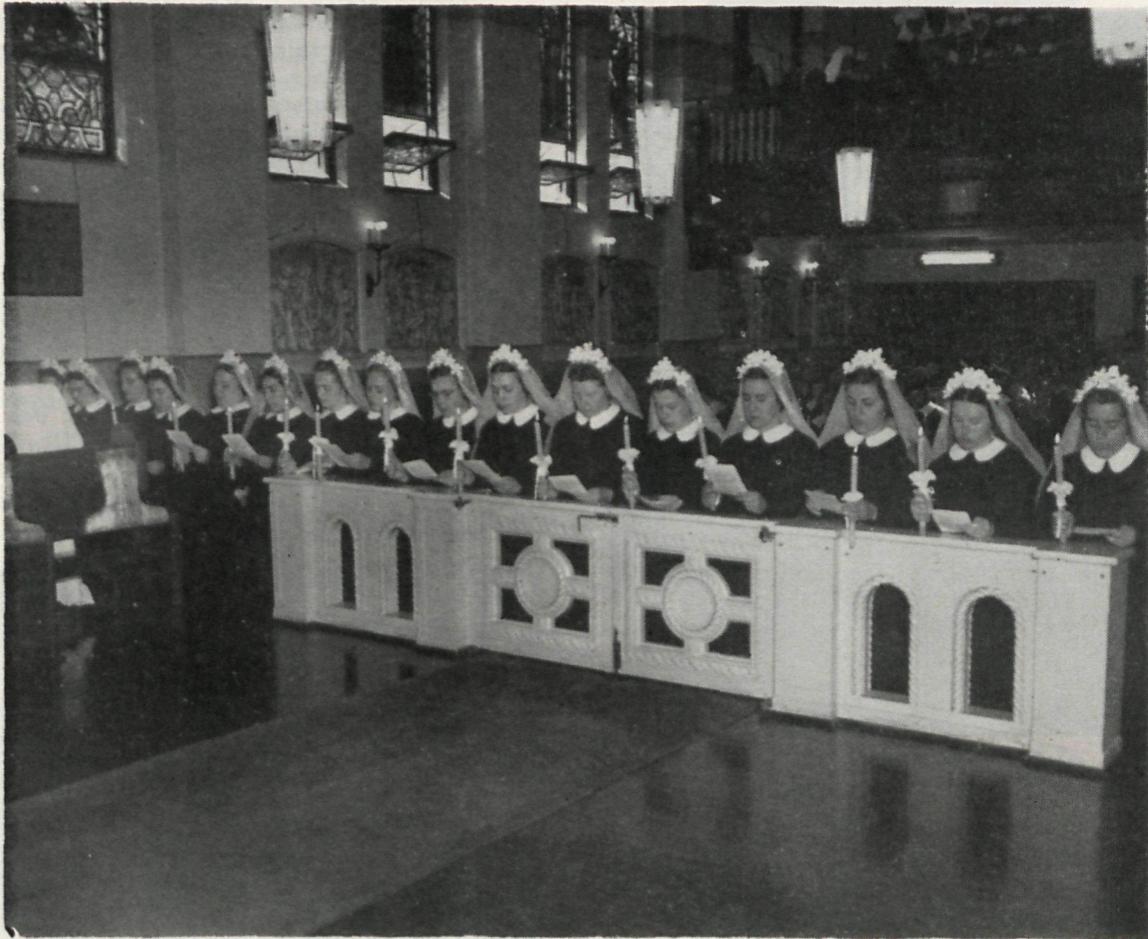
With Philip Our Lord used other tactics and said gently: "Follow Me." He responded immediately to these encouraging words and meekly followed Our Lord. Philip had no previous notice, yet he accepted. A vocation may come without any previous warning. Our Lord still calls the Johns and Andrews, the Marys and Ruths—but always in His own way—and in His own time. There is awakened in the heart of the boy or girl an earnest desire to serve God and sanctify one's soul in a particular community doing a particular type of work.

IT is estimated that one out of every ten girls is qualified to enter the religious life, but less than one out of every thousand ever cooperates with the graces and accepts the invitation.

The qualifications for service in a religious community may differ according to the work of the community, but the requirements are essentially the same. A candidate for Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters must be of good moral character, have good mental and physical health, average intelligence and a willingness to accept cheerfully the sacrifices of missionary life.

If, after earnest prayer, serious thought, and talking it over with her confessor, the young aspirant to the religious life has reached a decision, and like Philip turned to follow Our Lord, then she may make application to a religious community. After all preliminaries are completed, application forms filled out, physical examination taken, and the applicant accepted by a community, the time has come for her to take her first step in the religious life.

NOBLE parents do all in their power to make it easy for their child to answer God's call. They see in her religious vocation the special blessing of God on their home. They know they will never be forgotten and will have a share in whatever work she will do now as well as in her eternal joy hereafter.



## THE TEST

## First Step—The Postulant

A POSTULANT is an ordinary American girl from any walk in life. She may be fresh from high school, may have finished college, or she may have had a place in the business world and earned her living for several years. She may have been a student, a teacher, a nurse, a Wave or a Wac, a stenographer, a clerk or a homemaker. She has one thing in common now with the others in her group—one goal—she has come to serve Jesus and Mary in whatever work or capacity she is best fitted. The natural talents and ability of each one will be put to good use in the missionary life opening out before her.

The young woman consecrates herself to Our Blessed Mother and entrusts her vocation into Mary's keeping. She dons a simple black uniform and a white net veil, showing that she wishes to set herself aside from the world to begin a new life.

Happy Postulant days follow! Since she is to be a Christ-bearer, she does all she can to

learn more about Him and His way, the better to carry Him to others, hence her spiritual formation receives first place. She learns the spirit of the community and her future obligations. She lives its motto "All for Jesus through Mary" in the 'give and take' of everyday life. During this period she attends classes intended to fit her for her life work as a religious teacher and social worker. Her studies include Religion, Ascetics, Sociology, Music Theory, English and Spanish.

AFTER the Postulancy has been completed satisfactorily, the young woman is ready to be accepted into the Novitiate. On August 5th, Feast of Our Lady of the Snows, Victory Noll has its annual Reception and Profession.

In a beautiful, but simple ceremony, the Postulant receives her dark blue habit and white veil from the hands of His Excellency, our Most Reverend Bishop, and becomes a Novice and a member of the community. At this time she receives the name by which she will be



### Second Step—The Novice

known in future. She also receives a community rosary and a mission crucifix which she will later place in the hands of the sick and dying.

Two years are spent in the Novitiate. During the first or canonical year, the Novice re-

ceives special training in the spiritual life. While continuing this training in the second year of the Novitiate, the studies begun in the Postulancy are resumed and a few new subjects added with stress placed on gaining a knowledge of helpful methods of teaching.

The Novitiate is a happy place and the Novices are known for their joyous spirit. As one Novice wrote, "Our life is a life of love, filled with joy, happiness and peace, with the knowledge that each day we are enjoying the hundred-fold promised by Our Lord to those who would leave all to follow Him. We have but to look forward expectantly to the future and our share in doing God's work in the missions, without missing a moment of the 'just now.'"



There is always time for good, wholesome fun



Relatives and friends greet novices and newly professed Sisters after Reception and Profession ceremonies in Victory Noll chapel

### Third Step—The Professed Sister

FINAL preparations include an eight day retreat and then Profession Day dawn. That morning the Novice exchanges her white veil for the blue veil of the professed sister, and receives a silver medal of Our Blessed Lady of Victory on a silver chain, to be worn about her neck.

The beautiful words His Excellency uses in conferring the medal and chain are expressive of the hopes and ideals of a Missionary Sister: "Receive this medal and chain of your glorious Heavenly Patroness, Our Blessed Lady of Victory, which the community confers upon you. May the image of your good Mother on this medal be indelibly engraved upon your heart, and may the chain ever serve to remind you that you are bound by the chains of love to the self-sacrificing service of Jesus and Mary in the person of the poor little ones of the flock, so dear to Their Sacred Hearts. Amen."



Just before Holy Communion the Sister makes her vows, pronouncing for the first time the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. This is a moment of supreme happiness. It is the goal for which she has been striving. She is now a Professed Missionary Sister of Our Blessed Lady of Victory. This is a day of rejoicing for the Sister, for her community and for her dear ones. The Magnificat which is sung at the closing of the ceremonies is a whole-hearted hymn of praise and thanksgiving.

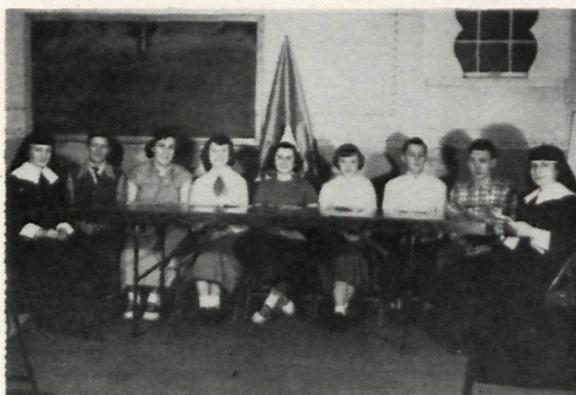


On August 15th, Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother, Sister will receive her first mission assignment to any one of the fifty mission centers conducted by our Sisters in the United States.

She will go into the highways and byways in union with Jesus and Mary, to bring souls to the Good Shepherd and to seek out the souls that have strayed far from Him. Before her stretch out "fields, ripe to the harvest." She will keep uppermost in her mind the thought of a lonely Figure on the roads of Galilee, for it is His work and He Who said:

"For I was hungry . . .  
and you gave Me to eat.  
Thirsty . . .  
and you gave Me to drink;  
Naked . . .  
and you covered Me  
Sick . . .  
and you visited Me.  
I was in prison . . .  
and you came to Me.  
As long as you did it  
To one of these my least  
brethren  
You did it to Me."

(Matt. 25, 35-40)



A TIDAL WAVE of groans and exclamations rose after the snap was taken. Everyone it seems had looked just terrible, yet we knew in truth that all were secretly pleased to have had their picture taken seated around the speakers' table as they waited for the evening's work to begin.

On March 15, the boys and girls of the High School Classes in religion invited the seventh and eighth graders of the parish to a program on vocations. Ten young people prepared talks—some on specific religious communities; others on the religious life in general. Only the religious state was discussed for lack of time. Before each speaker arose, Sister commented on the previous speech showing its purpose in the picture as a whole. Of course the speakers were nervous, but they struggled courageously and everyone appreciated their efforts.

Of particular interest were the talks on the steps to becoming a Sister. During the year *Topix*, the Catechetical Guild Publication, has featured articles on the religious life. These made excellent short talks, attention-getting yet informative. The girls gave: Life in the Juniorate; Around the Clock with a Postulant; The Novitiate at Last; and Life in the Novitiate.

Previous to the evening session of March 15, part of class time each week was devoted to explanations on the three states—the married, single, and religious. Catchy blurbs with ideas taken from material mailed out by the Seraphic Society for Vocations of Westmont, Illinois were distributed. Many boys and girls had pledged three Hail Marys a day, plus a day a week to ask God's help in knowing their vocation.

One of the parishioners had designed and painted six large posters. Several depicted founders such as St. Dominic and St. Francis. Two showed Sisters in the habit of their community. Cloistered, teaching, and missionary religious were among the six.

## In the Home Field

As requested, about twenty-five religious communities had sent literature describing their work and foundations. These pamphlets, books and leaflets were on display for the evening.

Our Lady's statue, catching all eyes, stood centered in the front of the room. At her feet lay copies of the *Imitation of Christ*—her gifts to the speakers who were doing such a pleasing work. As a fitting close, Our Blessed Mother was spotlighted in the darkened room while the Junior Choir girls sang from the hymn, *Beautiful Lady*, "To You Our Blessed Mother We Pledge Our Love."

Sister Justine  
East Gary, Indiana

FROM—St. John Bosco Mission—  
Detroit, Michigan

At the beginning of Lent we encouraged the children to practice self-denial. In one class Sister John gave out small slips with a suggested penance. To her surprise, a girl who drew a slip marked *I'll give up my Television one night this week* came to Sister and said, "May I draw another slip, Sister? My mother already has said that no one in our family may watch television during Lent."

Another boy, not yet baptized, listened very intently to Father's sermon on penance. After reaching home he told his mother, "I guess, Mom, that means no candy for me during Lent, as that's what I like more than anything else."

With many examples such as these we feel confident that this new parish in Dearborn will be obtaining rich blessings from Almighty God.

Once in a while we virtually have to bite our tongue to keep back a chuckle when the children retell a story in class. Francis was repeating the story of St. Peter's denial and when I asked him what happened after Peter had said three times that he did not know Jesus, he said: "The chicken clucked!"

Sister Josepha  
Middlesex, New Jersey

*The Missionary Catechist*

"Hap- Hap- Happiness  
Everyone's looking for Happiness  
The rich man seeks the poor man's health  
The poor man seeks the rich man's wealth  
Hap- Hap- Happiness  
Everyone's looking for Happiness!"

Thus runs the first few lines of a popular song.

Our Pastor had given a very inspiring sermon on man's search for happiness and used the lines of the above song to emphasize his point. Mass was finished, and as is his custom, he came down to talk a few moments to the children. Father, wishing to know who had listened to his sermon, asked: "Who knows where we can find happiness?"

A little girl sitting in the back waved her hand, so Father, smiling with pleasure, called on her. With confidence, she replied, "On the phonograph record in the juke box."

Sister Fidelis  
Winnemucca, Nevada

The Ordinance plant has brought many families into our parish. Each Friday we gather children from the army post and take them into town for class. One of my six-year-old "live-wires" has spent most of his tender years in Persia and Germany. Army life has made him a little rugged, so I hope to make a gentleman of him. After many, many reminders to say, "Good afternoon, Sisters" as he entered the car, I had this success:

Bobby and a pal of his raced to the car and bounced in, puffing and sniffing. After a few seconds, I reminded him, "You forgot something, Bobby."

Surprised, he looked thoughtful for a minute, and then triumphantly said, "Yeah,—Kleenex!"

Sister Mary Geraldine  
Richmond, Kentucky.

March, 1952



During Lent children at East Gary, Indiana, save their sacrifice money in mite boxes for the Propagation of the Faith.

FROM—Holy Family Mission—  
Lubbock, Texas

A few weeks ago we decided to raffle an Infant of Prague statue to raise money to buy a baptismal font for the church. The children were given the tickets after class with full instructions as to what they were for, what to say, etc. That evening the door bell rang. Sister answered, and a boy of ten said, "Sister, what are these tickets for? Oscar stopped me and asked me to buy some. I asked him what they were for and he told me, 'I don't know. Buy the tickets and go ask the Sisters.'"

# News Items About

Dear Associates:



For the fourth consecutive year, the members of *Sacred Heart Mission Society, Newark, New York* were the largest contributors to our community. Their year-end total for 1951 was \$700.00.

We want you to know that this is, comparatively speaking, a small Missionary group inasmuch as there are only seventeen active members and six contributing members in it. They make money for the missions

the hard way: an ice cream social in midsummer (did you ever help put one on?), and a bazaar in December for which they prepare a year in advance, working like beavers in an effort to have as many pieces of needlework and handicraft as possible ready for sale just before Christmas. They also have brush demonstration parties from

time to time during the year. Actually these ladies raised \$1200.00 in 1951, but a part of their proceeds went to their parish. The present Promoter is *Mrs. Sue Albanese*, and the Secretary, *Mrs. Theresa Pitrella*.

The members of *Good Shepherd Mission Club, Chicago*, ranked as the second largest contributors with a year-end total of \$545.68. Congratulations to *Mrs. H. F. Staley*, President, and her faithful co-workers.

The ladies comprising *St. Joseph Band No. 2, Chicago*, (*Mrs. Aloysia Naumes, Promoter*) took third place with \$441.66 to their credit, while *St. Justin Martyr Band, Chicago* (*Mrs. Fred Kiefer*) ranked next with a total of \$370.75.

We wish we could give the individual praise that each Band deserves. Instead we promise our grateful prayers for all.

SISTER SUPERVISOR, ACM.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF ST. JOSEPH MISSION CLUB, BALDWINSVILLE, N. Y.



The above photo was taken at the twelfth annual meeting of St. Joseph's Mission Club, Baldwinville, New York. The names of the officers for the current year are Mrs. Daniel Luke, president (third from left in front row), Mrs. Robert Bond, vice president (first in front row on the left) Mrs. Harriet Pollard, recording secretary (second from right in second row), Mrs. Sylvester Gosiere, financial secretary (second from end on left in front row), and Mrs. John Hess, treasurer (first in second row to the left). Seated in the center in the first row is Mrs. Homer Reeves, the retiring president.

# Our Associates

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA GROUP (Huntington, Ind.)

THIS small neighborhood group, consisting of twelve members, began to contribute to our Missionaries less than four years ago. Their meetings are held on the First Friday of every month and the primary purpose of them is to discuss some doctrinal subject or current religious topic. Usually one member prepares a paper on a subject agreed upon. This then becomes the subject matter for discussion. The Rosary, too, is recited together at some time during the afternoon, and a "collection for the Sisters of Victory Noll" made before the members disperse. Dues money was increased considerably during the past two years by paper sales money. We think their year-end total of \$41.35 is very good.

The president of the group is *Mrs. Ben Scheiber*, and the secretary-treasurer, *Mrs. Dan Herzog*.

## ST. GEORGE BAND (Chicago, Ill.)

Named for the late Reverend George B. Lescher, who founded the Band, the ladies who comprise it began to help us over twenty-five years ago. They have assisted us financially with money resulting from the payment of dues, augmented occasionally by a benefit card party on a larger scale. They have aided us, too, with prayers recited in common at meetings that God may bless our work for the poor.

There are twelve members in the Band, with *Mrs. Lee Walters*, serving as Promoter. They sponsor our Sister Mary Genrose.

## ST. JUDE MISSION CLUB (Chicago, Ill.)

THE members of this Club, headed by *Mrs. Lydia Fiala*, were able to hoist their year-end total in 1951 inasmuch as they sent us \$14.00 more than in 1950. This is an encouraging note because it did not result from increased membership but from increased giving on the part of old members.

The president reported illness among members (including herself) but concluded her remarks with the significant words, "Last evening



## ACM BAND CONTRIBUTIONS

December 20, 1951 to January 17, 1952

Charitina Club No. 2, Paris, Ill., Mary C. Gibbons .....	8.00
Christ the King Band, Detroit, Elizabeth Bien \$	90.00
Good Shepherd Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. H. F. Staley .....	171.45
Good Will Mission Circle, Carrollton, Ky., Mrs. G. Krumpelman .....	24.00
Holy Family Band, Chicago, Joseph Walz .....	25.00
Holy Ghost Band, Elkhart, Ind., Miss Mary E. Nye .....	80.00
Juanita Club, Chicago, Mrs. P. J. Phelan .....	25.00
Les Petites Fleurs, Chicago, Mrs. C. Koschnitzke .....	7.50
Little Flower Mission Circle, Chicago, Veronica Foertsch .....	25.00
Mary, Queen of all Hearts Band, Lombard, Ill., Wilma Wengritzky .....	15.00
Mothers & Daughters, Chicago, Mrs. Earl Keegan .....	30.00
Mother of Perpetual Help Band, Evanston, Ill., Celia Henrich .....	34.00
Our Lady of Fatima Band, Huntington, Ind., Mrs. Dan Herzog .....	7.00
Poor Souls Band, Berwyn, Ill., Mrs. J. V. McGovern .....	5.00
St. Anne Band, Ft. Wayne, Ind., Mrs. Geo. Deininger .....	5.25
St. Anthony Band, Chicago, Mrs. Agnes Beck	36.00
St. Bridget Band, Bellevue, Ky., Mrs. John Busse .....	6.00
St. Catherine Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. M. McMannamy .....	20.50
St. Clare Band, Omaha, Mrs. Ann Igel .....	140.00
St. Helen Band, Dayton, Helen Melke .....	33.50
St. Irene Auxiliaries, Chicago, Madeline Sebraska .....	21.00
St. John Mission Guild, Chicago, Mrs. Anna Bechtold .....	45.00
St. Joseph Band No. 2, Chicago, Mrs. Aloysia Naumes .....	21.00
St. Jude Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. C. J. Fiala .....	13.00
St. Margaret Mary Band, Omaha, Mrs. Fred Shields .....	30.00
St. Martin of Tours Band, Omaha, Lucille Murphy .....	40.00
St. Philomena Band, Chicago, Mary Schaefer	64.50
St. Raymond Band, Chicago, Mrs. Kathryn Quinlan .....	21.25
Seven Dolors Band, Bellwood, Ill., Mrs. John Murphy .....	4.50
"Tip Top Twelve," Cincinnati, O., Catherine DuMont .....	5.00
Upsilon Chapter, Pi Epsilon Kappa, LaPorte, Ind., Irene Baczkiewicz .....	25.00

I attended Our Lady of Sorrows Novena and saw so many wheel chair patients, stretcher cases and lame persons that it makes one ashamed to complain. These people manage to get around."

# Catechism of the True Devotion

by Rev. Ralph W. Beiting

21. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS DEVOTION AND RELIGIOUS DUTIES THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS BY REASON OF HIS BAPTISM?

It is true that at the time of our Baptism, our sponsors in our name dedicated our lives to God and promised we would forsake the slavery of sin and evil for the holy slavery of Jesus. So, it is not surprising to hear de Montfort say, "This devotion may rightly be called a perfect renewal of the vows or promises of Holy Baptism." (*True Devotion*, 26.) Attention must, however, be called to the word "perfect" renewal, for herein lies the difference between the two.

22. HOW IS THE PRACTICE OF TRUE DEVOTION A MORE PERFECT RENEWAL OF OUR BAPTISMAL PROMISES?

Saint de Montfort gives the following reasons why his way of renewing our Baptismal promises is more perfect. "In Baptism, we ordinarily speak by the mouth of another, our godfather or godmother, and so we give ourselves to Jesus Christ not by ourselves but through another. But in this devotion, we do it by ourselves, voluntarily, knowing what we are doing. Moreover, in Holy Baptism, we do not give ourselves to Jesus by the hands of Mary, at least not in an explicit manner; and we do not give Him the value of our good actions. We remain entirely free after Baptism, either to apply them to whom we please, or to keep them for ourselves. But, by this devotion, we give ourselves to our Lord explicitly by the hands of Mary, and we consecrate to Him the value of our good actions.

23. ARE WE NOT, BY REASON OF OUR BAPTISM, BOUND ALWAYS TO WORK FOR THE GLORY OF GOD?

Most assuredly we are. But de Montfort would have us go even further than this. He wants us to work for the greater honor and glory of God. Christ has told us that if we pray in the proper way for the proper thing, He will infallibly answer our petition. However, the fact that we have asked for a good thing does not mean that we asked for the best thing, and de Montfort wants us to ask for the best thing. Now,

we do not always want what is the best thing for us to ask for, and as a result, we spend our merits on inferior products instead of putting them to their best use. These inferior products are good, however; if they were not God would not have answered our prayer. But we could have done more with the same merit, if we had known how to spend it. Apart from God Himself, Mary alone knows what things contribute most to the glory of God. For example, it may give God more glory at this time to have a sinner converted than to free a soul from Purgatory. We are finite; we do not know what, in this particular case, is the better thing to ask for. Instead of asking for one or the other favor as we ordinarily do, we now leave it to Mary to use our prayers or fastings as she knows best.

24. WHY IS IT BEST TO OFFER OUR MERITS TO JESUS THROUGH MARY?

Four reasons can be given for this practice. The first and most important reason is that such is the Will of God. The second is, that in so doing, we imitate most perfectly the example of Jesus Himself. It is also more perfect because it is more humble, and, lastly, because of the blessings such an offer brings down upon us.

25. HOW DO WE KNOW IT IS GOD'S WILL THAT WE SHOULD COME TO HIM THROUGH MARY?

We know God's Will in something from what He has done. Now, in regard to Our Blessed Lady, He has made her our spiritual Mother. This is an article of our Faith. Mary is our spiritual Mother because she cooperated with Jesus in giving us our spiritual life of grace. She did this by her cooperation with Jesus in the work of redemption. But God has done even greater things for Our Lady. Besides using her as His helper in giving us grace, He has deemed that she should intercede for, and dispense to us, every grace that we receive. In other words, God sent His only begotten Son to us by means of Mary. He began the work of our salvation by means of Mary. He continues and completes the work of our sanctification even now by means of Mary. He has placed her as the Mediatrix between Himself and us; for us to refuse to go back to Him by means of Mary, would be to ignore His Will in the matter.

(continued from page 4)

restful week in this secluded mountain camp. We spent a few happy days there, and found great joy and contentment among the fourteen Sisters present.

Then back again to Denver, and two of the Sisters accompanied us to Grand Lake where the Sisters have religious summer school each year. The children of this area came running to greet the Sisters and you just sense how close is the feeling between pupil and teacher, and how much good can be accomplished in this atmosphere of geniality. We saw the small but lovely church of Our Lady of Guadalupe in a Mexican settlement in Denver where the Sisters teach regularly. How sad would be the plight of these children where there are no parochial schools if the Missionary Sisters did not teach them about God!

We enjoyed the beauties of the mountains together with our daughter: Berthoid Pass and the Continental Divide, Mt. Lookout and the Buffalo Bill Memorial. On another day Sister went with us to the top of Pike's Peak, where we realized how small is man and how great is God.

The next day we went to Brighton, Colorado, where Sister is stationed for the fourth year. Here the four Sisters teach 780 pupils, young and old. We drove through the west end of town and the little ones shyly called "Hi Sister," and you knew they loved her even as she loves them, and through it all, dear parents, we felt humble pride that God had called our daughter to this beautiful vocation of living her life for Him alone.

On the west side, we visited some of the poor missions. One is called the mushroom church, which is just an old box car out in the field, surrounded by the humble homes of the workers of this mushroom-growing area. We saw the "Pickle Cathedral" at Wattenburg, so named because the building was an old pickle canning factory. Here too, the Sisters teach religion and do what they can to bring all into the One Fold. Many of these people follow the crops and have no real home, so it is only through the work of these missionaries that they have the opportunity to learn about our Holy Faith. So, "Mother and Dad," encourage your daughter to become a Missionary Sister and we can safely promise her and you a great joy and contentment in this life and eternal happiness in the next.

Mother and Dad of a Missionary Sister



26. IN WHAT WAY DID JESUS GIVE US AN EXAMPLE OF DEPENDENCE ON MARY?

Jesus showed His desire to depend on Mary in the following manner. He became man for our salvation, but it was only in Mary and by Mary. As God He could have chosen a thousand other ways of redeeming us. He willed to be presented to His Father in the Temple by means of the Virginal Hands of His Mother. For over thirty years He was "subject" to her in all things, and gave only three years to the preaching of the kingdom. As de Montfort expressed it, Jesus gave more glory to God the Father by submission to His Mother during those thirty years, than He would have given Him in converting the whole world by the working of the most stupendous miracles, a thing He would have done if it would have given more honor to God. Then, too, Jesus performed His first miracles of grace and of nature only at the word of Mary. Saint John the Baptist was sanctified, and the water at Cana was made wine because of Mary's word. And at the end of His life, He tells us simply, "I have given you an example that as I have done . . . so you also should do." (John 13:15) Thus, it was all this that made St. de Montfort cry out, "O, how highly we glorify God when, to please Him, we submit ourselves to Mary after the example of Jesus Christ, our sole Exemplar."

(True Devotion, 18.)

(to be continued)



# Mary's Loyal

Other children who sent verses from the same school were: *Brenda Barry, Marie Buckley, Peter LePorin, Linda Mackey, Nora McGinty, Mary McLaughlin and Arline Rennie.*

The month of May is coming soon. Would some of you like to write a short composition about one of our Blessed Mother Mary's titles—how she came by that title? For instance, tell us in not more than one hundred words, the story of Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Guadalupe, or Our Lady of Fatima,—even another if you choose. We shall publish the best composition.

*Dear Loyal Helpers:*

**H**OW many of you were Loyal Helpers last year? If so, perhaps you recall that I asked you to pay tribute to Saint Joseph in the month of March which is dedicated to him by writing some short verses in his honor. Sister Mary Fidelis, SSND, was at that time teacher of the Seventh Graders at Saint Joseph's School, in Garden City, New York. Here are some of the charming little verses which were written by her pupils.

*St. Joseph*

A patient man with saw and board  
A carpenter was he,  
Foster-father of our Lord,  
Spouse of blessed Mary,  
Patron of a happy death,  
Saint Joseph pray for me.

*Mary Sheehy*

St. Joseph was a simple man,  
He worked and toiled all day:  
To us he gave this lesson—  
To follow God's own way.

*Chris O'Connell*

Blessed Saint Joseph, help us today  
To do all we should in the right way,  
To love and to honor and always obey.

*Elizabeth Byron*

To those who holily live,  
To those who want happily to die,  
St. Joseph is ready to give,  
Guidance and help from on high.

*Robert Tynan*

The above verses were original. We are sorry we cannot publish all the poems sent to us.

*Mary-ly yours,*

SUNSHINE SECRETARY, MLH

A CHICAGO HELPER



Above is pictured Nancy Lee Walters, Chicago, when she visited San Juan Capistrano Mission in California in the summer of 1951. Notice how tame the doves are! It is to this same mission that the swallows return each year on the Feast of St. Joseph.

FILL A DIME CARD FOR EASTER

Write *Sunshine Secretary, MLH, Victory Noll, Huntington, Indiana* for a dime card. Make little Lenten sacrifices so that you can send it back to Sister with ten dimes in it at Easter.

# Helpers Page

DAVID POWER AND KATHY MOORE OF  
DETROIT



## LETTER O' THE MONTH

*Dear Sunshine Secretary:*

Mother is writing this letter for me because it would take too long to print it. I have saved two rolls of pennies for you and Mommy is giving me a dollar bill for them.

You asked for more pictures for the magazine so we are sending you one. I think it is kinda silly-looking—all dressed up so fancy—but grown-ups are funny, they think it is quite special. My girl friend, Kathy Moore and I were in the Gay Nineties Parade for Detroit's Two Hundredth and Fifty Birthday and my Daddy took this picture then. Mommy thought we could pretend to be out calling on friends asking them to help the Missions, too. I was six last week and Kathy is six and a half. We are in First Grade at Precious Blood School.

My Aunt is Sister Mary Mark. She is in North Dakota now because my Gran is very sick.

March, 1952



She is very holy and went to Mass every day until she got sick, although she is eighty-two. I think she will go straight to Heaven when she dies.

Next year I want to have a little orphan boy, black or white, with me for Christmas. We were too late to get one this year because Mommy was away in North Dakota, too.

God bless everybody!

*Your little friend, David Power.*

## MARCH PUZZLE

THIS month we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick. Therefore, a St. Patrick's Day puzzle is in order. In the following sentences the letters of one word are tangled up. The sense of the words which precede and follow should help you to discover the correct spelling of the word.

1. We are told that St. Patrick used a MASHCORK to explain the Mystery of the Blessed Trinity.
2. Ireland is called the DALREMER Isle.
3. It is also known as the Island of NAS-SINT and scholars.
4. To kiss the ALBYERN stone you have to hang far out of a tower.
5. "The PAHR that once through Tara's halls."

Now go to work and untangle the words, numbering each one and then mail your answers to *Sunshine Secretary, Mary's Loyal Helpers, Victory Noll, Huntington, Indiana* for a holy card.

## ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY PUZZLE

1. United States. 2. Canada. 3. Mexico. 4. Alaska.
5. Chile. 6. Peru. 7. Panama.

## Lenten Reflections

*Devotion to the Passion.*—The sufferings of our Lord move us to sorrow for our sins, and prompt the desire to repair the evil we have done. St. Ignatius places the bleeding figure of Christ before us even in the meditation on hell. The cross is the explanation of why we are not damned, and is an appeal to us not to sin.

*Spirit of Prayer.*—It is not enough to pray at certain times, to bow in adoration before God, to praise Him for His greatness, to thank Him for His blessings, to propitiate His offended Majesty, to ask Him for favors. These practices should be habitual, a second nature to us, inspiring every action of our lives, just as our breath marks the vitality of our body, as the soul is the principle of our life.

*All for Jesus.*—The secret of the saints, the key to holiness and heaven; the fulfillment of that first and greatest commandment. "Thou shall love the Lord, thy God, with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind and with thy whole strength." This thorough surrender of self is impossible unless faith takes possession of the whole man.

*Victory Through Suffering.*—No cross, no crown. The saints of God won their places in the Kingdom at the cost of a struggle. Their crowns are worn at the expense of blood. But the struggle and the blood never rob their soul of a moment's peace. Virtue's triumphs know no regrets, death only hastens the period of their full enjoyment.

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## Lenten Reading

**PALM SUNDAY TO EASTER** by Sister Evelyn Benton, O.L.V.M.

These stories on the Passion written in the language of youth provide ample meditation material for boys and girls during the Lenten season.

In addition, the Spanish version makes excellent supplementary reading for students of Spanish classes in Catholic high schools.

Our Lady of Victory Press, Victory Noll, Huntington, Indiana. Single copy 25c

## Go to Joseph

There are no recorded words of St. Joseph. We owe much to St. Matthew and St. Luke for the little knowledge we have of him. He was a man of action rather than of words, his deeds spoke for him. We love him for his protection of Jesus and Mary. Like Mary, he was one of God's choicest creatures with a noble character enhanced still more by rich graces. Like Her, he was very close to the God-Man.

Confident souls win many favors through his intercession. They need not fear a refusal if their request is in accordance with God's Will. St. Joseph provides bread for needy orphans, work for the jobless, for conversions to the faith, health for the sick, and especially the grace of a happy death.

Young people pray to St. Joseph as head of the Holy Family for his help in finding their life work, that is, in choosing the right career and also finding the right partner in marriage.

Some years ago a young woman accompanied her parents west for a stay of several months. They located at a hotel convenient to the Cathedral where the family assisted regularly at all services.

One evening, the son of the manager of the hotel asked the girl if he might accompany them. She agreed if he would pray to St. Joseph with her, to obtain a certain favor. He consented, and this was the beginning of many visits to the Cathedral together.

Within a year they were married. On their wedding day they discovered that the intention they had both confided to St. Joseph had been for a happy marriage.

March is the Month of St. Joseph and also Vocation Month. If you need help in deciding your vocation, whether it be to the religious life or to the married state, "Go to Joseph."

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**LET US GO WITH HIM** by Father Edwin Dorzweiler, O.F.M. CAP.

Six different "Ways" of the Cross are in this little book. Each form carries one theme through the fourteen Stations. At each Station one reads a brief, inspiring, and very practical meditation from which help may be culled to draw closer to Christ.

The Catholic Home Journal, Pittsburgh 1, Pa. Single copy 35c. Four or more 25c.



O God, Who in Thine unspeakable providence wast pleased to choose blessed Joseph for Thy most holy Mother's spouse: grant, we beseech Thee, that we may become worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom we venerate as our protector upon earth.

—Collect from Mass for Solemnity of St. Joseph

# The Lorica, or Breastplate of St. Patrick

*This version of the beautiful prayer, composed by the Apostle of Ireland, is a direct translation from the original Irish text in the "Liber Hymnorum," preserved in Trinity College, Dublin.*

- |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| I. I arise to-day              | Through belief in the Threeness,  |
| Through a mighty strength,     | Through confession of the Oneness |
| The invocation of the Trinity, | Of the Creator of Creation.       |

## II. I arise today

Through the strength of Christ with His baptism,  
Through the strength of His crucifixion with His burial,  
Through the strength of His resurrection with His ascension,  
Through the strength of His descent for the Judgment of Doom.

## III. I arise today

Through the strength of the love of Cherubim,  
In obedience of angels,  
In the service of the archangels,  
In hope of resurrection to meet with reward;

## IV. I arise today

In prayers of patriarchs,  
In predictions of prophets,  
In preachings of apostles,  
In innocence of holy virgins,  
In deeds of righteous men.

## V. I arise today

Through God's strength to pilot me,  
God's might to uphold me,  
God's wisdom to guide me,  
God's eye to look before me,  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to speak to me,  
God's hand to guard me,  
God's way to lie before me,

God's shield to protect me,  
God's host to secure me,—  
Against snares of devils,  
Against temptations of vices,  
Against inclinations of nature,  
Against everyone who shall wish me ill.  
Afar and near,  
Alone and in multitude.